

Seaman, Katherine

From: sjokeeffe@gmail.com on behalf of Stephanie O'Keeffe [stephanie@okeeffe.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2009 3:15 PM
To: Select Board; Seaman, Katherine
Subject: Getting ready for Monday's meeting

Hello All --

Since we're a little out of the usual SB meeting rhythms, I thought I'd send this out in preparation for Monday. Several agenda items require us to do some reading and thinking ahead of time.

Kendrick Park Committee Report: We each received a hard copy of that report in the spring -- it's a nice booklet with a color photo on the front. (Don't be intimidated by its length. The report itself is only a couple of pages; the rest of the booklet is copies of memos and newspaper articles.) To avoid unnecessary tree killing, we won't receive another this week. If you can't find yours, you can access the report online:

<http://www.amherstma.gov/DocumentView.aspx?DID=2492> (report)
<http://www.amherstma.gov/index.aspx?nid=923> (links to all appendices)

Economic Development Plan: We will have a preliminary discussion about this. This is the plan Larry submitted to us for our comment, per the FY09 performance goal. Initial thoughts and comments about this will determine next steps and future discussions. We have received this plan twice: as a stand-alone document dated 5/29, and incorporated into Larry's year-end self-evaluation. It is available online here (starts on page 7):

<http://www.amherstma.gov/DocumentView.aspx?DID=2621>

Town Manager's FY10 Goals: We need to have a two-part discussion of this, since we ran out of time to have the first part of the discussion at our 7/22 meeting. Per my 7/16 memo, (available here: <http://ma-amherst2.civicplus.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=2600>), from the 7/22 packet archive) the first part will be about how FY09 goals inform the FY10 goals, and some questions to help us focus on that are:

- • Should any FY09 goals carry forward unchanged for FY10?
- • Are any FY09 goals completed in full, and hence, unnecessary for FY10?
- • Do any of the FY09 goals need more attention and emphasis in FY10?
- • Should any FY09 goals be revised for better clarity and specificity for FY10?
- • Should any FY09 goals that aren't completed in full be removed from FY10 consideration, due to changing priorities?

The second part of the discussion will be about new goal ideas. I hope this is something we have all been giving some general thought to over time. We will have at least one more conversation about FY10 goals, so we will have the chance to add to or revise the draft concepts we discuss at this meeting. As usual, it is much easier if we all come prepared with specific ideas and recommendations -- and better still, if we have something written out that can be included in the packet, or e-mailed over the weekend with hard copies at our desks. The packet deadline is 9:00 a.m. on Friday.

Fall SB meeting dates: To give you a head's up, so you can think about it ahead of time: I will be proposing that we meet twice in September, on the 14th and 28th, and October 5, 19 and 26. We can talk about the pros and cons of these dates at the meeting. November 2nd begins Fall TM, so we can determine any alternatives to scheduled pre-TM meetings when we see how that shapes up.

Thanks for taking some time to think about all of this stuff before the meeting! See you Monday! (And FYI: a print-out of this e-mail will be included in our packets.)

Stephanie